

SUBJECTS.

Certain reforms in the dispensation of medical relief from the hospitals and native vaidyasalas.

Dewan's reply.—As I have already said, the matter will be considered.

Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Minachil Taluk) made the following suggestions for increasing the usefulness of Sirkar hospitals and native vaidyasalas :—

Hospitals—

(1) The rule requiring the personal attendance of patients at the hospitals for medicine should be abrogated.

(2) Medical officers should not be allowed to insist on the payment of fees as a condition precedent to their examining patients and dispensing medicine.

(3) Instructions should be issued to medical officers requiring them to attend readily to all emergent calls.

(4) No visiting fees should be claimed by medical officers for visits within a radius of three miles from the hospitals.

(5) Strict rules should be framed for regulating the fees to be paid to medical men.

Native Vaidyasalas—

(1) A central Ayurvedic College should be established at Trivandrum and an Ayurvedic school in each of the four divisions. Only passed men should be appointed to these institutions.

(2) The grants now given to vaidyasalas should be stopped. A vaidyasala should be opened in each taluk and vaidyans on fixed salaries appointed.

(3) A medicinal garden should be attached to the College at Trivandrum and the medicinal herbs &c. collected and distributed by the Principal to the several vaidyasalas.

(4) The native vaidyans should be trained in the methods of homeopathic treatment and liberal grants given to independent homeopathic vaidyasalas.

(5) The present Superintendent of Vaidyasalas should be appointed as the Principal of the Ayurvedic College. The vaidyasalas and ayurvedic schools should be divided into two ranges and two Inspectors, who have passed the Ayurvedic test, should be appointed.

(6) Separate and convenient buildings should be constructed for the Ayurvedic College and schools and for important vaidyasalas and they should all be properly equipped.

(7) The dispensaries which did not serve any useful purpose at present might be abolished and the funds

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made available transferred for the maintenance of vaidya-salas.

(8) At least, a fourth of the allotment now made to hospitals and dispensaries should, in future, be sanctioned for native vaidyasalas.

Mr. P. Kesava Pillai (Member, Neyyattinkara Taluk) requested that the Circular requiring the personal attendance of patients at the hospitals and dispensaries might be cancelled and that the medicines whose issue to some of the institutions was recently stopped should be continued to be supplied. He also requested that arrangements might be made for medical officers visiting patients gratis in towns.

Mr. Ousep Kuryayippu (Member, Muvattupuzha Taluk) requested that branch hospitals might be established at up-country stations, where there were no facilities at present for medical aid. The medicine required might be found from that supplied to the different hospitals, to which the branch hospitals might be attached. The only additional expenditure that would be necessary was on account of the pay of the compounders to be appointed. He also requested that medicines might be arranged to be given on the reports of diseases as before. If the Circular could not be abolished altogether, it should at least be modified so as to make an exemption in the case of patients living at long distances from the medical institutions. The Member also prayed that the dispensary at Kothamangalom might be revived.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestions of the Members are noted.

VII.—Education.

**47. Certain suggestions
for the advance-
ment of education.**

Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai (Member, Ambalapuzha Taluk) observed that the present educational position of Travancore was due to the uninterrupted adherence to the policy of increasing the number of Government and aided schools. That policy of the State was all along quite in keeping with the requirements of the people and the liberal tradition of the country. He was sorry therefore that, in deviation from such a policy, Government thought fit to abolish as many as five Sirkar schools and were further contemplating the extension of the policy to other schools. The reasons were for the first time known from the address, and they were (1) that the Government schools which were closed were unnecessary and (2) that there were private